

Joint Declaration

between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iceland and the Ministry of Defence of Sweden on Defence Cooperation

Introduction

The security situation in Europe has deteriorated and enhanced cooperation on defence and security is called for. Iceland and Sweden have a shared interest in upholding the fundamental principles of international law, in preserving the European security order and security in our neighborhood and in strengthening the transatlantic link.

Iceland and Sweden are strong regional partners, working together in addressing the security challenges facing the Euro-Atlantic area, amongst other within fora such as NORDEFECO, Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF), the Northern Group and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), where Iceland is a member and Sweden is an Enhanced Opportunities Partner.

Nordic defence cooperation serves to promote regional security and stability, and our bilateral and multilateral cooperation contributes to the cohesion and resilience of our societies. This is noted in NORDEFECO's Vision 2025.

Objective

Iceland and Sweden will continue to advance our defence cooperation on matters of mutual interest, based on common values, to better respond to the evolving security environment. We will explore further opportunities for information-sharing, training, education and cooperation on best practices in our strategic communications.

We will seek ways to enhance our partnership with dialogue and practical cooperation, to complement our efforts within multilateral fora.

Recognising the common security challenges in the North Atlantic and in the Arctic, we will actively engage on a bilateral basis in support of a common understanding and to improve situational awareness.

Given the increasing use of hybrid and asymmetric warfare in our security environment, we will step up our bilateral dialogue with a view to enhancing our resilience in this regard. We will seek to develop cooperation on addressing hybrid threats, including cyber security.

As fellow leaders on gender equality, we will seek to promote and develop joint projects to strengthen the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda as set out in UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions. We note the important role of the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations in Sweden in this regard.

Done at 15/9-2021 on Stockholm


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